REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 24, 2003 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claim 6 has now been redrafted into independent form. Claim 5 has now been redrafted into independent form as claim 2. The limitations particular to original claim 5 have also been added to independent claims 1 and 3, where claim 3 has been reformatted as dependent upon claim 2. Claims 11 and 12 have been added. Claims 1-4 and 6-12 are pending, of which the independent claims are 1, 2 and 6. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,715,529 to Kianush et al. ("Kianush").

Claim 6, which has now been redrafted into independent form, recites, "characterised by harmonic filtering means coupled <u>between</u> <u>outputs</u> of <u>the</u> soft limiting means <u>and</u> inputs of the signal demodulation means."

Item 4 of the Office Action identifies "elements AL and IF2" of Kianush as corresponding to "<u>the</u> soft limiting means" of claim 1, although the combination of TC and IF2 would seems to correspond better. In any event, the "<u>outputs</u> of <u>the</u> soft limiting means" of claim 1 therefore can apparently correspond <u>only</u> to the two output lines to the Kianush limiter LIM (Kianush, FIG. 1).

Kianush does not disclose harmonic filtering means. If one were to imagine Kianush implemented with harmonic filtering means, it appears that one could not fairly be more specific than to venture that any such Kianush "harmonic filtering means" corresponds, once again, to the Kianush TC and IF2.

Presumably, the "signal demodulation means" corresponds to the Kianush demodulator DEM.

In Kianush FIG. 1, only the limiter LIM exists between what is deemed to correspond to the "signal demodulation means" and "outputs of the soft limiting means," and a limiter is not a harmonic filter.

The applicants therefore fail to understand how it fairly can be said that Kianush discloses or suggests "harmonic filtering means coupled between outputs of the soft limiting means and inputs of the signal demodulation means."

For at least this reason, Kianush fails to anticipate the invention as recited in claim 6. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 has now been redrafted into independent form as claim 2.

Claim 2 recites, "amplifying means are coupled to inputs of the image rejection filtering means for adjusting the dynamic range of the quadrature related low IF signals for entry into the image rejection filtering means."

Item 4 of the Office Action seems to suggest that the "amplifying means" of claim 2 corresponds to the Kianush amplifier-limiter AL, the "image rejection filtering means" of claim 1 corresponds to the Kianush second IF filter IF2, and the "quadrature related low IF signals" are the output signals from the second mixer stage M2.

Firstly, however, Kianush neither discloses nor suggests an image rejection filtering means. Presumably, item 4 of the Office Action is suggesting that the Kianush tuning control signal generating circuit TC is configured for image rejection filtering, but this is a mere presumption. Although such a means might be combined with a polyphase filter, the mere existence of a polyphase filter in Kianush does not imply the existence of

an "image rejection filtering means" as explicitly required by the language of claim 1. Even for this reason alone, the rejection of claim 2 is invalid.

Moreover, since the feedback signal is baseband (col. 5, line 25: "baseband") and the signals TI1, TI2, TI3 into the polyphase filter IF2 are tuning control signals (col. 5, lines 38-40), the only "quadrature related low IF signals" that enter the polyphase filter IF2 are not adjusted "for entry into the" polyphase filter by any "amplifier means." Kianush touts its amplifiers RA1-RA3 in the polyphase filter as linear, low-distortion amplifiers (col. 4, line 64 – col. 5, line 4). There would accordingly be no apparent reason for a Kianush embodiment wherein "amplifying means are coupled to inputs of the image rejection filtering means for adjusting the dynamic range of the quadrature related low IF signals for entry into the image rejection filtering means."

For at least all of the above reasons, the invention as recited in claim 2 is not anticipated.

Claim 1 recites the same language as claim 2 regarding the amplifier adjusting the dynamic range "for entry into the image rejection filtering means" and is likewise deemed to be patentable at least for the same reasons set forth above with regard to claim 2.

Claims 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Kianush in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,404589 to Bjiker et al. ("Bjiker").

Claims 7-9 depend from base claims 1 and 2, and Bjiker cannot make up for the deficiencies in Kianush.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Kianush in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,697 to Haartsen.

Claim 10 depends from base claim 1, and Haartsen cannot make up for the shortcomings of Kianush.

As to the other rejected claims, each depends from a base claim and is deemed to be patentable at least due to its dependency.
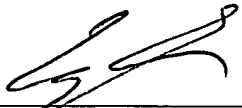
Dependent claims 11 and 12 have now been added to more particularly point out aspects of what the applicants regard to be the invention. Support for claims 11 and 12 is found in FIG. 1 and accompanying text in the specification.

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For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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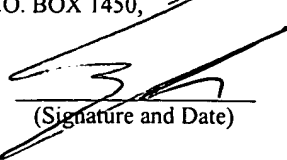Attorney for Applicant
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